5-14-04

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 073671.0133

PATENT APPLICATION 09/852,352

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

MAIL STOP AF

PO Box 1450

Commissioner for Patents

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

G. Christian Alford, et al.

RECEIVED

Serial No.:

09/852,352

MAY 1 7 2004

Filing Date:

May 8, 2001

Technology Center 2100

Examiner:

Chuck O. Kendall

Art Unit:

2122

Title:

A DIAGNOSTIC TOOL FOR A PORTABLE THREAD

ENVIRONMENT

"EXPRESS MAIL"

Express Mailing Label Number

EV 324642395 US

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dear Sir:

Willie liles

Date: May _____, 2004

RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

In response to the final Office Action mailed March 16, 2004, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the rejection of the claims in view of the following amendments and comments as set forth below.